

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): LEVAS, Anthony et al.

Examiner: JACKSON, Jakieda R.

Serial No.: 10/797,847

Group Art Unit: 2626

Filed: March 10, 2004

Docket: 728-241 (YOR920030583US1)

Dated: December 23, 2009

For: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PRESENTING AND BROWSING INFORMATION

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

TRANSMITTAL OF APPELLANTS' SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF ON APPEAL

Sir:

Enclosed please find APPELLANTS' SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF.

Also, in the event any additional extensions of time are required, please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 50/0510/IBM.

Respectfully submitted,



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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

APPLICANT(S): LEVAS, Anthony et al. **GROUP ART UNIT:** 2626
APPLICATION NO.: 10/797,847 **EXAMINER:** JACKSON, Jakieda R.
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APPELLANTS' SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF ON APPEAL¹

¹ This Supplemental Brief on Appeal is being submitted in response to the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief dated November 25, 2009.

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is International Business Machines Corporation, the assignee of the subject application, having an office at New Orchard Road, Armonk, New York 10504.

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

To the best of Appellants' knowledge and belief, there are no currently pending related appeals, interferences or judicial proceedings.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Original Claims 1-26 were filed on March 10, 2004. Claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 12, 16, 18, 21, 25 and 26 were amended and Claims 3, 11 and 20 were cancelled in an Amendment filed August 15, 2007. Claims 1, 9 and 18 were amended in an Amendment filed January 28, 2008. Claims 1, 5-9, 13-16, 18 and 22-26 were amended and Claims 2, 4, 10, 12, 19 and 21 were cancelled in an Amendment filed July 7, 2008. Claims 1, 9 and 18 were amended in an Amendment filed January 23, 2009. Thus, Claims 1, 5-9, 13-18 and 22-26 are pending in the Appeal. Claims 1, 9 and 18 are in independent form. For the purposes of this appeal: Claims 1 and 5-8 stand or fall together; Claims 9 and 13-17 stand or fall together; and Claims 18 and 22-26 stand or fall together.

STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

All amendments filed to date have been entered. Thus, the Appendix to this Appeal Brief includes Claims 1-26, of which the status of Claims 1, 5-9, 13-16, 18 and 22-26 is indicated as “Previously Presented”, the status of Claims 2-4, 10-12 and 19-21 is indicated as “Cancelled”, and the status of Claim 17 is indicated as “Original”.

SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The invention recited in Claim 1 relates to a method for presenting and browsing information. The method includes classifying the information into a plurality of classes and sub-classes, each class having at least one sub-class. (Specification at page 10, lines 21-22, and FIG. 4.)² The method further includes directional tagging said classified information with directional tags for spatial presentation. (Specification at page 10, lines 23-24, and FIG. 4.) The method still further includes consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags. (Specification at page 10, lines 26-28, and FIG. 4.) The method still yet further includes interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes. (Specification at page 11, lines 4-12, and FIG. 4.) The method still yet further includes receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented. (Specification at page 11, lines 4-10, and FIG. 4.) The method also includes presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command. (Specification at page 11, lines 10-12, and FIG. 4.)

The invention recited in Claim 9 relates to a system for presenting and browsing information. The system includes a processor for classifying the information into a plurality of classes and sub-classes, each class having at least one sub-class, directional tagging said classified information with directional tags for spatial presentation, and consulting the directional tags for audible presentation. (Specification at page 10, lines 21-24, and FIG. 3.) The system also

² Although a citation for each feature of the claims is provided herein, Appellants note that support may be found elsewhere in the written description.

includes an output system for audibly presenting from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags the plurality of classes of information to the user.

(Specification at page 10, lines 26-28, and FIG. 3.) The system further includes an input system for interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes. (Specification at page 11, lines 4-12, and FIG. 3.) In the system, said processor receives an input command from the user through said input system, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented, and presents sub-class information of the class identified by said input command. (Specification at page 11, lines 4-12, and FIG. 3.)

The invention recited in Claim 18 relates to a computer program device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine. The computer program device is configured for classifying the information into a plurality of classes and sub-classes, each class having at least one sub-class. (Specification at page 10, lines 21-24, and FIG. 4.) The computer program device is also configured for directional tagging said classified information with directional tags for spatial presentation. (Specification at page 10, lines 23-24, and FIG. 4.) The computer program device is further configured for consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags. (Specification at page 10, lines 26-28, and FIG. 4.) The computer program device is still yet further configured for interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes, receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented. (Specification at page 11, lines 4-10, and FIG. 4.) The computer program device is also configured for presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command. (Specification at page 11, lines 10-12, and FIG. 4.)

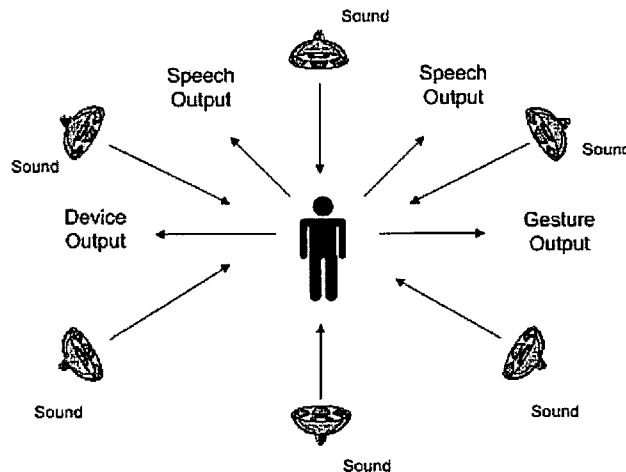
GROUND FOR REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Whether Claims 1, 5-9, 13-18 and 22-26 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Publication 2003/0155413 (Kovesdi) in view of U.S. Publication 2005/0108646 (Willins).

ARGUMENT

1. Plain Meaning

The claims of the present application recite, in part, consulting the directional tags to audibly present classes and sub-classes of information from different positions in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags. That is, the audio (i.e. the sound itself) is presented from different positions in space relative to the user. This concept of audibly presenting each class from a different position in space relative to a user is depicted in FIG. 1 of the present application. FIG. 1 illustrates:



In addition to controlling what is being output to a user, the claims of the present application deal with how (i.e. from which direction) the audio is output to a user. The directional tags control the position in space from where the audio is output. As shown in FIG. 1, the direction tags control the direction from where the audio is output relative to the user, which can be from in front of, behind, to the left or right, from above or below, etc., the user.

The Examiner alleges that the claims “merely recite that the tags are presented from

based [sic] on where the user is.”³ It is respectfully submitted that this is an incorrect reading of the claims. The claims do not recite that tags are presented to a user. The claims do not recite that presentation is based on where a user is. The claims recite consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags. As stated above, the claims relate in part to how, that is from where, audio is output from the system. The directional tags control from where the audio is output (e.g. in front, above, from the left, etc.) The Examiner’s interpretation of the claims is not supported by the plain meaning of the claims.

2. Independent Claim 1 is patentable over Kovesdi in view of Willins

Independent Claim 1 was said to be obvious over Kovesdi in view of Willins.⁴

Claim 1 recites a method for presenting and browsing information. The method includes classifying the information into a plurality of classes and sub-classes, each class having at least one sub-class. The method further includes directional tagging said classified information with directional tags for spatial presentation. The method still further includes consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags. The method still yet further includes interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes. The method still yet further includes receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented. The method also includes presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command. method of computing response time

³ See Office Action dated July 10, 2009 at page 2.

⁴ See Office Action dated July 10, 2009 at page 3.

of a web server. The method includes placing a plurality of correlation tags in data at networking and application layers, wherein said tags allow for later identification of said data. The method further includes collecting said data from said layers, the data corresponds to a single event. The method still further includes combining said data from said networking and application layers into a metric, the data corresponding to a single web event is identified. The method also includes calculating client perceived response time.

Kovesdi discloses a system and method for authoring and providing information relevant to a physical world.⁵

Willins discloses a telemetric contextually based spatial audio system integrated into a mobile terminal wireless system.⁶

2A. Kovesdi in view of Willins does not teach or disclose consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags as recited in Claim 1, and thus Kovesdi in view of Willins cannot render obvious Claim 1

Claim 1 recites, in part, consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags.

The Examiner alleges that these features are disclosed by the combination of Kovesdi and Willins.⁷

It is respectfully submitted that neither Kovesdi nor Willins outputs audio from different positions in space relative to a user, and therefore the combination of Kovesdi and Willins cannot

⁵ See Kovesdi at title and abstract.

⁶ See Willins at title and abstract.

⁷ See Office Action dated July 10, 2009 at page 4.

render the claims of the present application unpatentable.

Kovesdi discloses system for performing indexing operations based on object identifiers of a plurality of objects.⁸ The system of Kovesdi utilizes various 2-dimensional visual displays to indicate the location of the objects.⁹ Kovesdi teaches a type of proximity search function to narrow an object identifier search space.¹⁰ In one embodiment, Kovesdi discloses that audio is output from a speaker or video is output on a display on a hand-held mobile device.¹¹ Thus, all audio and video emanates from the hand-held mobile device. Kovesdi discloses no system or method wherein an audio output is presented from any different directions.

Willins teaches a system where audio is output from a headset connected to a mobile terminal.¹² The headset includes a compass to determine the head orientation of a user.¹³ The geographical position of the mobile terminal is also determined.¹⁴ In Willins, sound emanates from only the headset.

Thus the combination of Kovesdi and Willins produces audio from only a mobile device (Kovesdi) or headset (Willins), and not “from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags” as recited in Claim 1 of the present application.

Thus, the combination of Kovesdi and Willins cannot render the claims of the present application unpatentable. Based on at least the foregoing, the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) must be reversed.

⁸ See Kovesdi at Abstract.

⁹ See Kovesdi at FIG. 1.

¹⁰ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0064].

¹¹ See Kovesdi at FIG. 11.

¹² See Willins at Abstract.

¹³ See Willins at Abstract.

¹⁴ See Willins at Abstract.

2B. Kovesdi in view of Willins does not teach or disclose interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes, comprising the steps of: receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented; and presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command as recited in Claim 1, and thus Kovesdi in view of Willins cannot render obvious Claim 1

Claim 1 recites, in part, interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes, comprising the steps of: receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented; and presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command. The input command contains information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented in order to present further information, i.e. sub-classes, from a position in space from which a class was presented.

The Examiner alleges that Kovesdi discloses these features.¹⁵

Kovesdi describes various input mechanisms.¹⁶ Kovesdi describes interface controls for providing digital text input, and an accelerated navigation of displayed indices, to remember the last accessed index, having a mode selector.¹⁷ Kovesdi describes a location determination capability to narrow down the object identifier search space.¹⁸

None of these sections, or any other description provided by Kovesdi, teaches or discloses an input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a

¹⁵ See Office Action dated July 10, 2009 at page 4.

¹⁶ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0046].

¹⁷ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0089].

¹⁸ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0064].

class was presented.

Willins does not cure the defects of Kovesdi.

Thus the combination of Kovesdi and Willins produces input commands that are unrelated to a position in space from which a class was presented.

Thus, the combination of Kovesdi and Willins cannot render the claims of the present application unpatentable. Based on at least the foregoing, the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) must be reversed.

2C. Independent Claim 1 is not obvious over Kovesdi in view of Willins

The Examiner has failed to show that each and every element of Claim 1, and in as complete detail as is contained therein, are taught in or suggested by the prior art. The Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection, and thus Claim 1 is allowable.

3. Dependent Claims 5-8 are patentable over Kovesdi in view of Willins

Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 5-8, these claims are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of at least their dependence on Claim 1.

4. Independent Claim 9 is patentable over Kovesdi in view of Willins

Independent Claim 9 was said to be obvious over Kovesdi in view of Willins.¹⁹

Claim 9 recites a system for presenting and browsing information. The system includes a processor for classifying the information into a plurality of classes and sub-classes, each class

¹⁹ See Office Action dated July 10, 2009 at page 3.

having at least one sub-class, directional tagging said classified information with directional tags for spatial presentation, and consulting the directional tags for audible presentation. The system also includes an output system for audibly presenting from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags the plurality of classes of information to the user. The system further includes an input system for interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes. In the system, said processor receives an input command from the user through said input system, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented, and presents sub-class information of the class identified by said input command.

Kovesdi discloses a system and method for authoring and providing information relevant to a physical world.²⁰

Willins discloses a telemetric contextually based spatial audio system integrated into a mobile terminal wireless system.²¹

4A. Kovesdi in view of Willins does not teach or disclose consulting the directional tags for audible presentation, audibly presenting from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags the plurality of classes of information to the user as recited in Claim 9, and thus Kovesdi in view of Willins cannot render obvious Claim 9

Claim 9 recites, in part, consulting the directional tags for audible presentation, audibly presenting from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags the plurality of classes of information to the user.

²⁰ See Kovesdi at title and abstract.

²¹ See Willins at title and abstract.

The Examiner alleges that the combination of Kovesdi and Willins discloses these features.²²

It is respectfully submitted that neither Kovesdi nor Willins outputs audio from different positions in space relative to a user, and therefore the combination of Kovesdi and Willins cannot render the claims of the present application unpatentable.

Kovesdi discloses system for performing indexing operations based on object identifiers of a plurality of objects.²³ The system of Kovesdi utilizes various 2-dimensional visual displays to indicate the location of the objects.²⁴ Kovesdi teaches a type of proximity search function to narrow an object identifier search space.²⁵ In one embodiment, Kovesdi discloses that audio is output from a speaker or video is output on a display on a hand-held mobile device.²⁶ Thus, all audio and video emanates from the hand-held mobile device. Kovesdi discloses no system or method wherein an audio output is presented from any different directions.

Willins teaches a system where audio is output from a headset connected to a mobile terminal.²⁷ The headset includes a compass to determine the head orientation of a user.²⁸ The geographical position of the mobile terminal is also determined.²⁹ In Willins, sound emanates from only the headset.

Thus the combination of Kovesdi and Willins produces audio from only a mobile device (Kovesdi) or headset (Willins), and not “from a different position in space relative to a user and

²² See Office Action dated July 10, 2009 at page 4.

²³ See Kovesdi at Abstract.

²⁴ See Kovesdi at FIG. 1.

²⁵ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0064].

²⁶ See Kovesdi at FIG. 11.

²⁷ See Willins at Abstract.

²⁸ See Willins at Abstract.

²⁹ See Willins at Abstract.

based on the directional tags” as recited in Claim 9 of the present application.

Thus, the combination of Kovesdi and Willins cannot render the claims of the present application unpatentable. Based on at least the foregoing, the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) must be reversed.

4B. Kovesdi in view of Willins does not teach or disclose an input system for interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes, a processor that receives an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented and presents sub-class information of the class identified by said input command as recited in Claim 9, and thus Kovesdi in view of Willins cannot render obvious Claim 9

Claim 9 recites, in part, an input system for interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes, a processor that receives an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented and presents sub-class information of the class identified by said input command.

The Examiner alleges that Kovesdi discloses these features.³⁰

Kovesdi describes various input mechanisms.³¹ Kovesdi describes interface controls for providing digital text input, and an accelerated navigation of displayed indices, to remember the last accessed index, having a mode selector.³² Kovesdi describes a location determination capability to narrow down the object identifier search space.³³

³⁰ See Office Action dated July 10, 2009 at page 4.

³¹ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0046].

³² See Kovesdi at paragraph [0089].

³³ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0064].

None of these sections, or any other description provided by Kovesdi, teaches or discloses an input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented.

Willins does not cure the defects of Kovesdi.

Thus the combination of Kovesdi and Willins produces input commands that are unrelated to a position in space from which a class was presented.

Thus, the combination of Kovesdi and Willins cannot render the claims of the present application unpatentable. Based on at least the foregoing, the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) must be reversed.

4C. Independent Claim 9 is not obvious over Kovesdi in view of Willins

The Examiner has failed to show that each and every element of Claim 9, and in as complete detail as is contained therein, are taught in or suggested by the prior art. The Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection, and thus Claim 9 is allowable.

5. Dependent Claims 13-17 are patentable over Kovesdi in view of Willins

Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 13-17, these claims are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of at least their dependence on Claim 9.

6. Independent Claim 18 is patentable over Kovesdi in view of Willins

Independent Claim 18 was said to be obvious over Kovesdi in view of Willins.³⁴

Claim 18 recites a computer program device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine. The computer program device is configured for classifying the information into a plurality of classes and sub-classes, each class having at least one sub-class. The computer program device is also configured for directional tagging said classified information with directional tags for spatial presentation. The computer program device is further configured for consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags. The computer program device is still yet further configured for interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes, receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented. The computer program device is also configured for presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command.

Kovesdi discloses a system and method for authoring and providing information relevant to a physical world.³⁵

Willins discloses a telemetric contextually based spatial audio system integrated into a mobile terminal wireless system.³⁶

6A. Kovesdi in view of Willins does not teach or disclose consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the

³⁴ See Office Action dated July 10, 2009 at page 3.

³⁵ See Kovesdi at title and abstract.

³⁶ See Willins at title and abstract.

directional tags as recited in Claim 18, and thus Kovesdi in view of Willins cannot render obvious Claim 18

Claim 18 recites, in part, consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags.

The Examiner alleges that the combination of Kovesdi and Willins discloses these features.³⁷

It is respectfully submitted that neither Kovesdi nor Willins outputs audio from different positions in space relative to a user, and therefore the combination of Kovesdi and Willins cannot render the claims of the present application unpatentable.

Kovesdi discloses system for performing indexing operations based on object identifiers of a plurality of objects.³⁸ The system of Kovesdi utilizes various 2-dimensional visual displays to indicate the location of the objects.³⁹ Kovesdi teaches a type of proximity search function to narrow an object identifier search space.⁴⁰ In one embodiment, Kovesdi discloses that audio is output from a speaker or video is output on a display on a hand-held mobile device.⁴¹ Thus, all audio and video emanates from the hand-held mobile device. Kovesdi discloses no system or method wherein an audio output is presented from any different directions.

Willins teaches a system where audio is output from a headset connected to a mobile terminal.⁴² The headset includes a compass to determine the head orientation of a user.⁴³ The

³⁷ See Office Action dated July 10, 2009 at page 4.

³⁸ See Kovesdi at Abstract.

³⁹ See Kovesdi at FIG. 1.

⁴⁰ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0064].

⁴¹ See Kovesdi at FIG. 11.

⁴² See Willins at Abstract.

⁴³ See Willins at Abstract.

geographical position of the mobile terminal is also determined.⁴⁴ In Willins, sound emanates from only the headset.

Thus the combination of Kovesdi and Willins produces audio from only a mobile device (Kovesdi) or headset (Willins), and not “from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags” as recited in Claim 18 of the present application.

Thus, the combination of Kovesdi and Willins cannot render the claims of the present application unpatentable. Based on at least the foregoing, the rejection of Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) must be reversed.

6B. Kovesdi in view of Willins does not teach or disclose interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes, receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented, and presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command as recited in Claim 18, and thus Kovesdi in view of Willins cannot render obvious Claim 18

Claim 18 recites, in part, interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes, receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented, and presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command. The input command contains information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented in order to present further information.

Kovesdi describes various input mechanisms.⁴⁵ Kovesdi describes interface controls for

⁴⁴ See Willins at Abstract.

⁴⁵ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0046].

providing digital text input, and an accelerated navigation of displayed indices, to remember the last accessed index, having a mode selector.⁴⁶ Kovesdi describes a location determination capability to narrow down the object identifier search space.⁴⁷

None of these sections, or any other description provided by Kovesdi, teaches or discloses an input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented.

Willins does not cure the defects of Kovesdi.

Thus the combination of Kovesdi and Willins produces input commands that are unrelated to a position in space from which a class was presented.

Thus, the combination of Kovesdi and Willins cannot render the claims of the present application unpatentable. Based on at least the foregoing, the rejection of Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) must be reversed.

6C. Independent Claim 18 is not obvious over Kovesdi in view of Willins

The Examiner has failed to show that each and every element of Claim 18, and in as complete detail as is contained therein, are taught in or suggested by the prior art. The Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection, and thus Claim 18 is allowable.

7. Dependent Claims 22-26 are patentable over Kovesdi in view of Willins

Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 22-26, these claims are

⁴⁶ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0089].

⁴⁷ See Kovesdi at paragraph [0064].

likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of at least their dependence on Claim 18.

CONCLUSION

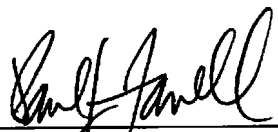
As the Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection, the rejection of Claims 1, 5-9, 13-18 and 22-26 must be reversed.

It is well settled that in order for a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) to be appropriate, the claimed invention must be shown to be obvious in view of the prior art as a whole. A claim may be found to be obvious if it is first shown that all of the recitations of a claim are taught in the prior art or are suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 985, 180 U.S.P.Q. 580, 583 (C.C.P.A. 1974), cited in M.P.E.P. §2143.03.

The Examiner has failed to show that all of the recitations of Claims 1, 5-9, 13-18 and 22-26 are taught or suggested by Kovesdi in view of Willins.

Accordingly, the Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection. Therefore, the rejections of Claims 1, 5-9, 13-18 and 22-26 must be reversed.

Dated: December 23, 2009

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CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. (Previously Presented) A method for presenting and browsing information, comprising the steps of:

classifying the information into a plurality of classes and sub-classes, each class having at least one sub-class;

directional tagging said classified information with directional tags for spatial presentation;

consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags; and

interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes, comprising the steps of:

receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented; and

presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the input command is received through a spoken command from the user.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the input command is received through an input device having means for determining a direction to which a user points.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the input command is received through an electrical or mechanical input device.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the interactively controlling step includes the steps of:

receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a class or sub-class; and

presenting further information of the class or sub-class identified by said input command.

9. (Previously Presented) A system for presenting and browsing information, comprising:
a processor for classifying the information into a plurality of classes and sub-classes, each class having at least one sub-class, directional tagging said classified information with directional tags for spatial presentation, and consulting the directional tags for audible presentation;

an output system for audibly presenting from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags the plurality of classes of information to the user; and

an input system for interactively controlling the presentation of the sub-classes,

wherein said processor receives an input command from the user through said input system, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented, and presents sub-class information of the class identified by said input command.

10-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 9, wherein said input system is a speech recognition system.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 9, wherein said input system is an input device having means for determining a direction to which a user points.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 9, wherein said input system is an electrical or mechanical input device.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 9, wherein the processor receives an input command from the user through the input system, said input command containing information identifying a class or sub-class, and presents through said output system further information of the class or sub-class identified by said input command.

17. (Original) The system of Claim 9, wherein the output system is at least two speakers.

18. (Previously Presented) A computer program device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for classifying the information into a plurality of classes and sub-classes, each class having at least one sub-class, directional tagging said classified information with directional tags for spatial presentation, consulting the directional tags to audibly present each class from a different position in space relative to a user and based on the directional tags, interactively controlling the

presentation of the sub-classes, receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a position in space from which a class was presented, and presenting sub-class information of the class identified by said input command.

19-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The computer program device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine of Claim 18, wherein the input command is received through a spoken command from the user.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer program device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine of Claim 18, wherein the input command is received through an input device having means for determining a direction to which a user points.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer program device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine of Claim 18, wherein the input command is received through an electrical or mechanical input device.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer program device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine of Claim 18, to further perform a step for receiving an input command from the user, said input command containing information identifying a class or sub-class, and presenting further information of the class or

sub-class identified by said input command.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer program device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine of claim 18, wherein the input command is received through at least one of a speech recognition system, an input device having means for determining a direction to which a user points, and a standard computer input device.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

There is no evidence submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.130, 1.131, 1.132 or entered by the Examiner and relied upon by Appellant.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

There are no known decisions rendered by a court or the Board in any proceeding identified pursuant to paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of 37 C.F.R. 41.37.